

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 1, with the following amended paragraph:

This invention relates to a razor blade ~~according to the pre-
amble of claim 1,~~ to a razor unit including such razor blades, to a
method of manufacturing razor blades ~~according to the pre-
amble of~~
~~claim 7,~~ and to a device for manufacturing razor blades. Such a
razor blade and such a method are known from U.S. Pat. No.
4,302,876.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 10, with the following amended paragraph:

According to the present invention, this object is achieved by
providing a razor blade ~~according to claim 1~~ having an edge portion
with a cutting edge and a further portion, the edge portion being
bent relative to the further portion in a bending zone spaced from
said cutting edge, wherein at least the edge portion has a material
structure hardened by a first heat treatment and in that the
bending zone has a locally re-heated structure, a method ~~according~~
~~to claim 7~~ of manufacturing a razor blade from a blank, according to
which method the razor blade is provided with an edge portion with

a cutting edge and a further portion, the edge portion being bent relative to the further portion including bending the blank, wherein the blank is hardened by a heat treatment and, subsequently after hardening of the blank, a portion of the blank is locally reheated in order to bend the edge portion of the blank relative to the further portion of the blank, as well as a device according to claim 10 for manufacturing razor blades from blanks, the razor blades each having an edge portion with a cutting edge and a further portion, the edge portion being bent relative to the further portion, said device comprising a hardening station including a heat treatment structure for hardening the blanks, a bending station for bending the blanks, the bending station including a reheating structure for locally heating portions of the blanks to be bent, and a transport path for transporting the blanks hardened in the hardening station from the hardening station to the bending station. The invention may also be embodied in a razor unit according to ~~claim 4, 5 and/or 6~~ exemplary embodiments described herein in which the razor blades are mounted in a particular configuration.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 26, with the following amended paragraph:

~~Particular further embodiments of the invention Exemplary~~
embodiments of a razor blade, a method of manufacturing a razor
blade, a device for manufacturing a razor blade, and a razor unit
are described in the dependent claimsherein.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 21, with the following amended paragraph:

The razor blades 4 each have a blade material thickness a , and the bending zone 9 is close to the tip of the cutting edge 7, so that the constriction e of the gaps between neighboring razor blades 4 widens very near to and preferably directly from the cutting edges 7, and a stiffness increase is achieved close to the cutting edge 7 where cutting loads are exerted onto the razor blade 4. Preferably the bending zones 9 are each located at a distance f , which is less than 1 mm and more preferably less than 0.7 mm from the cutting edge 7 of the same razor blade 4. The blade material thickness a may for instance be 0.1 mm.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 28, with the following amended paragraph:

A short distance f between the cutting edge 7 and the bending zone 9 of each razor blade 4 is also advantageous, because it allows positioning the razor blades 4 close to each other. Preferably, the distance between successive razor blades 4 is such that the edge portions 6 that are bent towards a neighboring razor blade 4 remain clear of a plane forming a continuation of the further portion 8 of that neighboring razor blade 4. In other words, the edge portions 6 that are bent towards a neighboring one of the razor blades 4 preferably project towards that neighboring razor blade 4 over a distance perpendicular to the further blade portion 8 of that razor blade 4 that is smaller than the spacing between the further portions 8 of these razor blades 4. This allows spraying water straight through the gap between the successive razor blades 4.